

# An APPEAL to the PUBLIC.

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IT being well known that the late Revd. Dr. SWIFT, D. S. P. D. wrote some Account of the Session of Parliament in *Great-Britain* which was prorogued and dissolved in July 1713, and of the Peace of *Utrecht*, which he would have published in his Life-time, having employed *George Faulkner* to write to some Bookseller in *London* for that Purpose, to publish that Work, to which he did imagine some Answers, Remarks and Criticisms would be made; in order to justify the said Account, and to write Replies thereto, he was willing to have the said Work printed during his own Life, in order to vindicate the Veracity of it, he desired his Printer and Bookseller in *Dublin* to write to *London* for that Purpose, which was done, and received an Answer to his Letter, which was given to the Dean, who approved of it, and wrote, on the Back, *a la Premiere*; with the Proposals of which Letter he was much pleased, and would have published that Account then; but, that Dr. King of the University of *Oxford*, remarkable for his great Genius and Learning, who had been lately introduced to Dr. *Swift*, hearing of the Design, desired the Dean to lay aside that Scheme, and that he would raise him a Sum of some thousand Pounds by a voluntary Subscription in *England*, to endow his intended Hospital for Idiots and Lunatics, and desired the Author to give the Manuscript, or send it after him to *England* for that Purpose, which by Advice of some People was complied with, and the Copy was sent to *England*: But the Author not hearing of his Work, or what was to be done with it, the Gentleman being employed on other Affairs, neglected the Publication of Proposals for printing that Work by Subscription, and of writing to the Author; the Dean then desired Mr. *Faulkner*, who was going to *England*, to call on that Gentleman at *Oxford*, and to ask him for the Manuscript; which *Faulkner* declined, without an Order and a Letter from the Author, which the Dean immediately wrote, with this most remarkable Superscription, which was, *To the Right worthy Dr. King, Principal of St. Mary's Hall at Oxford*, whither Mr *Faulkner* went to wait on that Gentleman, for whom he had the highest Honour and Esteem, having seen him at Dr. *Swift's* House in *Dublin*, and at other different Places in that City: But when *Faulkner* came to *Oxford*, which was in the Month of *September 1741*, he was informed the Doctor was at *Bath*, upon which *Faulkner* proceeded to *London*, from whence he wrote to Dr. King, who

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was

1758

May 7, 1742.

Gift of

Charles Jackson

of Boston

was pleased to return the following polite Answer and Re-joinder, which are subjoined here.

SIR,

YOUR Letter, for want of a more particular Direction, lay in the Post-house three or four Days; so that I did not receive it till this Morning. I shall be always ready to receive the Dean's Commands. But the Manuscript is locked up in my Study at *Oxford*: And as you will be gone for *Ireland* before I can leave this Place, I will find out some safe Hand, immediately after my Return to *Oxford*, by which I may send the Papers to the Dean. But pray be so kind as to send me his Letter, that I may have Authority for what I do.—I write with great Difficulty by Reason of a Contraction in all my Fingers, for which I am using the Waters of this Place. But I could not neglect answering your Letter as soon as it came to me.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,  
Bath, Oct. 5. 1741. W. King.

This Letter *Faulkner* answered, which the Doctor did not get until a Day or two after he wrote the following.

SIR, Bath, Oct. 12. 1741. Monday.

I Wrote to you on Monday last, and desired you to send me the Dean's Letter, that I might have an Authority in my Hands for delivering his Manuscript. I have received no Answer from you. And yet I do not imagine my Letter miscarried, since I exactly observed your Directions. I told you what I repeat here, that I shall always be ready to obey the Dean's Commands. And, indeed, I am sorry I was not at *Oxford*, when you called there, that you might have taken the Papers with you. If you scruple to send the Dean's Letter by Post for fear of an Accident, leave it for me at any Friend of yours in *London*, or with Mr. *Bathurst* the Bookseller, whom I think you know. Only leave it.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

W. King.

Upon the Receipt of this last Letter, Mr. *Faulkner* wrote to Dr. *King*, sent him the Dean's Letter, and told him he could not stay much longer in *London*, his Business in *Dublin* requiring his immediate Prefence; but that he might give the

the Manuscript to Lord *Orrery*, who carried it from *Ireland*, and from whom he received it, and there the Correspondence between Dr. *King* and Mr. *Faulkner* ended on this Occasion. But the Evening before *Faulkner* left *London*, being told that Dr. *King* was come to Town that Day, he went to the Doctor's Chambers in the Temple, where he was most politely received, according to usual Custom, by that Gentleman, where that Affair of the Dean's Manuscript was talked over. The Doctor said, he was very sorry, that he did not know, that he, *Faulkner*, would be in *London* at his Return; if he had, he would have brought the Papers from *Oxford*, and delivered them to him; but was glad he was desired to deliver the Papers to Lord *Orrery*, from whom he got them.

The Doctor kept his Word, and gave up the Manuscript to his Lordship, who had it some Years in his Custody, without its being called for; and Mr. *Faulkner* going to *England* upon his Busines and private Affairs in *July 1749*, applied to the Executors and Trustees of Dr. *Swift*, who died the 28th of *October 1745*, to receive their Commands about the above Manuscript, upon which a Day was appointed, and the Executors met accordingly, when, by their Directions, the following was drawn up, and given to Mr. *Faulkner*.

*His Grace the Lord Archbisop of Dub-*  
*lin in the Chair.* } Marsh's Publick Library, 7th of July  
*1749.*  
*A General Meeting.*

Present,  
*The Right Honourable the Lord Chief Justice Singleton,*  
*The Revd. Dr. Corbet, Dean of St. Patrick's,*  
*The Revd. Dr. James King. Alexander M'Cawlay, Esq;*

*Ordered*, That the Secretary do write a Letter to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Orrery*, in the Name of the Governors, requesting his Lordship to send over Dr. *Swift's* History of the Peace of *Utrecht*, (or by what other Name the said History is intituled) under Cover, and sealed with his Lordship's proper Seal. And that Mr. *Faulkner* be desired, when he goes next to *England*, to receive the said Book from his Lordship's Hands.

(A true Copy)

*John Lyon, Secretary.*

His Lordship not being in *London* at that Time, but at his Country Seat, he could not give the Papers to *Faulkner*, as they were locked up in his Cabinet in *London*, so that Mr. *Faulkner* again returned to *Ireland* without them.

But going again to *England* in the Year 1751, he met his Lordship in *London*, who was pleased to give him those Papers, which Mr. *Faulkner* brought over to *Dublin*, and delivered them in the Presence of the Revd. Dr. *Lyon*, to his Grace the Archbishop of *Dublin*, who gave them to the Right Honourable Lord Chief Justice *Singleton*, since Master of the Rolls, who had them in his Possession from that Time, until an Edition of that Work was advertised to be published in *Dublin* from a spurious one said to be printed in *London*, as the Dean never gave a Copy of that Work to any Person whatever, having always designed to publish those Papers in the most correct Manner; and for that Purpose had a very fair legible Copy wrote for him by Mr. *Kendrick*, his Verger, upon which he made his Marks and Corrections, and had prepared it for the Press, which was the one sent to *England* to Dr. *King*, and brought over by *Faulkner*.

There was another of these Books transcribed on purpose, and left in the Hauds of Mrs. *Whiteway*, a Relation of the Dean's, to compare it with the other one when printed; and if there was the least Deviation or Alteration, then she was to publish an exact and correct Edition, with Reasons for so doing, and pointing out the Faults that might be in any other Impression.

It being well known in *England*, as well as in this Kingdom, that *Faulkner* was directed by the Author to dispose of this Work, which he would have done, but for the above Reasons, many Booksellers in *London* applied to him to purchase that Work, which he told them he could not dispose of, without the Directions of the Dean's Executors and Trustees, who obtained a Charter from his Majesty by the Interest of the Earl of *Chesterfield*, then Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, in the Year 1746, constituting and authorizing them to carry on the Hospital for Idiots and Lunatics, under the Name of *St. Patrick's Hospital*, by which the Executors and Trustees became Governors thereof; and, in order to convince the Public of the Applications that were made to *Faulkner*, he thinks it proper to publish the following Extract of a Letter that was wrote to him by Mr. *Millar*, a Bookseller of great Eminence and good Character.

Dear Sir,

London, Jan. 15. 1752.

" I Shall be much obliged to you to know, if you print  
 " the Dean's History of the Four last Years of Queen  
 " Anne; and if you do, I shall be ready to purchase from you  
 " the Copy that comes first to *England*, for which I will  
 " give

" give you as much as any other Bookseller, if you will favour me with it."

I am, Dear Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

*And. Millar.*

This Letter *Faulkner* answered, and said, it was not in his Power to dispose of that Work at present, having given the Manuscript to the Trustees or Governors of the Dean's Hospital; or, in Words to this Purpose. And, is it to be supposed that Mr. *Millar* would have wrote the above Letter, if he did not imagine that *Faulkner* had that Work, or could help him to it?

Mr. *Faulkner* before he went to *England*, and carried the Governors Orders with him to bring over this Book, offered them Two hundred Guineas for the Copy, which he would dispose of to the best Advantage, in *England*, as well as in this Country; and moreover, that if any further Issues or Profits might arise by this Work, he would give it to St. *Patrick's* Hospital, desiring no Profit whatever for his Trouble.

Thus this Affair lay dormant until the latter End of last *January*, when *Faulkner* was informed, by a Letter from *London*, that this Work was in the Press, and would soon be published; upon which he waited on the Governors of St. *Patrick's* Hospital, and acquainted them with what he had heard, and shewed the Letters he had for his Authority, which they could hardly give Credit to, as the Dean never gave a Copy to any Person whatsoever; having two Transcripts prepared for the Press, the Transcript, now in the Hands of the Governors, having been for many Months, in the Year 1738, in the Possession of *Faulkner*, who took a Copy, which he never shewed, nor ever would to any Person whatever, altho' many of the Dean's Friends knew that he had it, yet he never could be prevailed on to let any Person see it, not knowing what the Consequences might be.

Upon further Assurances and Letters from *London*, to some of the Dean's Trustees, *Faulkner* was desired to write to Mr. *Millar*, which he accordingly did, and told him that no Person whatever had a Right to sell or give him that Copy, for which the Governors would make him accountable, as they had as legal a Claim to it as any Goods or Chattels of the Dean. This Letter was dated the 4th of *March* Instant, 1758.

In ten Days after the above was sent to *London* Messieurs *G.* and *A. Ewing* posted up a Title in the following Words:

*March*

March 14, 1758. *In a few Days will be published, The HISTORY of the FOUR LAST YEARS of the QUEEN.* By the late JONATHAN SWIFT, D. S. P. D. Published from the last Manuscript Copy, corrected and enlarged by the Author's own Hand. London Printed, Re-printed for G. and A. Ewing in Dame-Street, M,DCC,LVIII. N. B. The Dean never wrote any Book with the above Title.

Mr. Faulkner was very ill in Bed that Day, when one of his Clarks brought him one of the above Titles, upon which he sent another of his Clarks to Messieurs Ewing to acquaint them that he was very ill, and could not wait on them, but should be glad to see either of them at his House, not being able to go abroad; to which Mr. Ewing the Elder answered, that when his Son *Alic* should come home, he would send him; but not coming to *Essex-Street*, as expected, Faulkner sent a second Message, and had the same Answer; and sent a third Time, with Part of the Work printed and some of the Manuscript transcribed by *Faulkner* in order to secure as much, or all the Property as he could for the Benefit of the Dean's Hospital, when Mr. Ewing the Elder said, it is very well, and that he would send his Son the next Morning. Accordingly he came, when Mr. Faulkner produced some of his own Transcript and the Part that was printed, to which he answered, that he did not care for that, having had Part of the London printed Edition sent to him by Mr. *Millar*, and had printed some of the Sheets; to which Mr. Faulkner replied, That he had as good or a better Claim to that Work, having been employed by the Dean when living, and since by his Executors, Trustees and Governors, whom he always acquainted with his Proceedings; to which Mr. Ewing the Younger had not the least Regard; then says *Faulkner*, it shall be left to the Determination of Mr. *W. Smith*, Bookseller; to which Mr. Ewing the Younger said, he would not trust his Property to any one. To which *Faulkner* rejoined, that he would leave the Affair to any two of the Trade; to which Mr. Ewing the Younger made Replication, that he would not trust his Property to any People whatever, but would go on with that Work. Then *Faulkner* desired Mr. Ewing the younger to wait until he could get an Answer from Mr. *Millar*, which he expected by the next Packet: This also Mr. Ewing the Younger refused, and went away much disgusted that any of the Business should dare to oppose them in their Properties and Rights.

Immediately after Mr. Ewing the younger went away, Mr. *Exshaw* the Bookseller came to *Faulkner* on some Business, when

when *Faulkner* told him what had passed between the *young Gentleman* and himself, and shewed him the same Print and Manuscript that he had shewn to Mr. *Ewing the younger*; and Mr. *Exshaw* agreed, that according to the Rules of the Trade, he could not possibly be intitled to more than a Share. The same Evening Mr. *Faulkner* went to Mr. *W. Smith*, Bookseller, and told him the same Story, and had the same Opinion from that Gentleman that he had from Mr. *Exshaw*; upon which *Faulkner* desired him to speak to Mr. *Ewing* the Elder, which he readily complied with, and said, he would expostulate with him on that Subject; but was prevented from that Purpose, by an Indisposition, which hath confined him ever since to his Chambers.

According to Expectation, *Faulkner* had the underwritten fair and candid Letter from Mr. *Millar* in Answer to his of the 4th of *March* Inst. 1758, which for the Credit of that Gentleman, and the Satisfaction of the Public, is here annexed.

*Dear Sir,* *London, March 14, 1758.*

" *I* Would not omit a Post in answering the Favour of your's  
 " of the 4th, which I received only last Night, and shall  
 " not disappoint you in a candid and frank Answer.—A Gen-  
 " tleman of Rank and Integrity offered to me, last Autumn,  
 " a Manuscript of *Dean Swift's* four last Years of the *Queen*,  
 " which I refused purchasing, imagining the Executors, or  
 " Trustees, had only Right of disposing, and for the Bene-  
 " fit of his Hospital, upon which it went off: About two  
 " Months ago, the same Gentleman and I met, when he  
 " told me I was mistaken in both Facts, for that the *Dean*  
 " had not mentioned the Manuscripts in his Will, nor such  
 " an Intention, and further said, that he believed the Manu-  
 " script was destroyed, and never would be published, if his  
 " Friend now in *Ireland* had not preserved a Copy, the only  
 " one he believed extant: These Reasons, and knowing the  
 " *Dean* never Sold any of his Works, but gave them to  
 " Friends who Sold them, induced me to agree with the  
 " Gentleman the 16th of *January* last, conceiving, as it is  
 " in my Agreement, that his Friend had the *Right*, and this  
 " I did not do, 'till I consulted two Gentlemen of distin-  
 " guished Understanding, both in their Rank of Life, and  
 " their Knowledge in Literary Property, for which no Man  
 " has a higher Opinion, and have done more to preserve than  
 " my self, tho' I suffered much from your Country and mine,  
 " yet on no Account should I have done this, if I had not  
 believed

“ believed the Person’s Friend had the *Right* to dispose of it,  
 “ and, indeed, the Face of the Agreement declares so, and  
 “ his Terms offered and agreed of going half Profit, ap-  
 “ peared to me so fair, that I had not a Doubt of it.”

“ The Work is absolutely printed, and Numbers sent in-  
 “ to the Country before yours came to Hand, and it will be  
 “ published here in a few Days; but I will give you this fur-  
 “ ther Assurance, which you may acquaint the Executors or  
 “ Trustees, that if they can make it appear the Manuscript  
 “ is not destroyed, and was intended for that Charity, I will  
 “ most readily pay for my Share of the Property, as any  
 “ two fair Men shall determine, and I believe the Gentleman  
 “ will, tho’ him I have not seen since I received yours; for  
 “ believe me, good Sir, that Life is not worth enjoying to  
 “ do any one Act that one’s own Mind cannot approve, and  
 “ as I have lived, I resolve to die, an honest Man, and  
 “ am, dear Sir,

*Your most humble Servant,*

Andr. Millar.

“ P. S. On second Thought I inclose you the  
 “ Advertisement that induced me to buy  
 “ and him to publish.

This *Faulkner* hopeth will be sufficient to satisfy the Publick, that no Edition can be so correct as that printed by him, as all proper Care will be taken to have it free from any Blunders and Incorrections that may be in the English Edition; and that all his Friends and Customers will be so kind as to wait a few Days extraordinary for that Purpose, this Work being now printing as the Ninth Volume of the Author’s Works, in the same Size and Types of the former Editions, to match all those already printed; for which Purpose it is requested, that those who are willing to have this Volume, will be pleased to send one of their Books that this one may be bound to match them.

The above original Vouchers and Letters are now in the Possession of *Faulkner*, where any Person that pleafeth to come shall have the Perusal of them.

N. B. The Governors of St. Patrick’s Hospital sent a Message to Messieurs *George* and *Alexander Ewing* on Monday the 20th of March 1758, by Mr. *Dryden*, to desire them to desist from printing or publishing that Work, which they refused to comply with; so little Respect did they shew to the Trustees, who are Persons of the highest Rank and Distinction in this Kingdom.

*Essex-street, March 28. 1758.*